

Office of the Healthcare Advocate
Advisory Committee Meeting
November 2, 2011
12:30 noon

Meeting Summary

Attendees – (committee) Bill Sweeney, Steve Karp, Mark DeWaele; Vicki Veltri, Maureen Smith; (Absent) Gary Collins, Keith Stover

Vicki reported that OPM approved an attorney position for the office. This position replaces V.V.'s original position as General Counsel with OHA. The position has been reclassified to a bargaining unit position from a managerial position. We hope to fill the position in time for the New Year.

VV reported that since end of budget year, CID and OHA agreed to up to four rate review hearings per year for rate increases in excess of 15%. VV can share letter.

VV reported as per budget, the Sustinet staffing is now working in support of OHRI and Governor's Healthcare Cabinet.

Maureen Smith reported on data re consumer relations – data previously sent to committee shows extremely high case volume for OHA in the third quarter of 2011. Case volume overall through 2011 is increasing, with savings of \$2.9 million for the quarter. Trend shows case workers working to capacity.

VV reported that despite Governor's veto of rate review bill, OHA was able to work with legislative leadership and CID to secure agreement described above.

Under the Other business category, VV reported on her meeting with Governor Malloy. The Governor was very supportive of OHA's work and inquired as to whether OHA should have a joint press conference with Governor on OHA's success. Committee discussed briefly.

VV also reminded that advisory committee that the OHA tenth Anniversary Party would be held on November 14th in the Capitol with special guests, including the LT. Governor, Speaker Donovan, Senate leadership and consumer guests.

Advised committee that next meeting would be on January 17, 2012 at noon.